



Western Grammar School  
Issue 61 | Term 4 | Wednesday 11th November 2020

# NEWSLETTER

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT MESSAGE

Most of our students are currently doing their yearly exams. Some students started last week, while our HSC 2020 cohort finished on Monday 9th November. We wish them all the best with their exams and encourage them to follow the study tips provided by their teachers. We also pray that our HSC students get the results they deserve. Preparing and studying for exams is an important part of schooling. Students who prepare thoroughly in advance and follow a disciplined routine generally cope with exams better and perform to their potential. There is no substitute for consistent effort and hard work.

One aspect in their preparation that seems to be neglected is the importance of good quality sleep. Research clearly shows that sleep is vital for everyone's brain development and health; and especially for growing and developing children. Kids who don't sleep enough may have trouble paying attention and have a less effective memory. Sleep-deprived children also may be less alert and more easily distracted. The Australian Department of Health recommends between 9 and 11 hours of sleep for children aged 5-13 years, and between 8 and 10 hours of sleep for adolescents aged 14-17 years. Parents have a responsibility to ensure that their children get good quality sleep and the right amount of sleep.

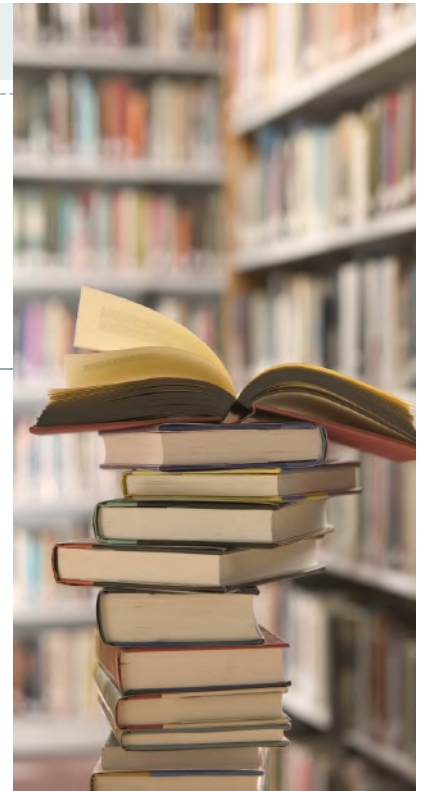
Dr Zachariah Matthews, Deputy Principal

## SPECIAL THANKS TO PLUMPTON HIGH

Our Assistant Principal, Zuky Malik, thanked Plumpton High School's Principal, Tim Lloyd, for allowing our students to sit the HSC exams along with their students. A certificate of appreciation and plate of baclava sweets were presented as a token of



thanks. Mr Malik was accompanied by the outgoing school captain, Saliha and two fellow HSC students. These three chemistry students were the final WGS group to complete their HSC exams on Monday 9th November 2020. We are extremely fortunate and grateful for the generosity shown to our students by Plumpton High School.



### VISION

*"Western Grammar seeks to foster in our students understanding and respect for each other and for the diversity of multicultural communities in Australia. Students are encouraged to be innovative, creative and problem-solving individuals. Students strive to achieve their personal best in an ideal educational and Islamic environment. They will be able to take their place with pride in the community and in the world."*

### CONTACT US

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KNOWLEDGE IS THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION

## Admin Notes

### Car Park Safety!

Parents/carers who use the car park for drop-off and pick-up must be extra vigilant and adhere to the following guidelines:

- follow the directions of staff in the car park
- do not exceed the speed limit of 5 kmph
- use lane 1 if possible (so that students don't have to walk across any lanes of the car park)
- accompany your child if they have to cross any lanes
- avoid reversing (wait for the car in front of you to move)
- merge carefully and courteously allowing others to drive out of the car park safely

### COVID-19: Student Illness

Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. If they have minor flu-like symptoms, then they must be tested for COVID-19. They must be symptom-free and show the school a negative COVID-19 test result before they can return to school.

### School Fees

Fees paid by parents play a major role in enabling WGS to meet its operating costs. Therefore, prompt payment of fees is highly appreciated.

### Uniform Shop Timings

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Uniform Shop will only be open on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30am-10:30am. Parents should contact the school office for assistance.

## PRINCIPAL'S MORNING TEA

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October, Western Grammar School held its second Principal's Morning Tea to celebrate the exceptional behaviour and consistent effort of students at the school. Two students per class were selected and were honoured with a framed hadith and a delicious morning tea in recognition of their outstanding achievements.

The goal for this event was to encourage and motivate students who always reflect a high standard of Islamic ethos in class. That being, displaying respectful Islamic manners and behaviour, as well as following in the footsteps of our beloved Prophet Muhammed (s) and striving with effort to achieve goals.

Principal Irfan Afzal celebrated with students over morning tea giving praise, support and advice to motivate students in continuing to use their skills and character traits, as lifelong learners and positive contributors of our local communities. Congratulations to these students and their families.



*“The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you” – B. B. King*

## REPTILE INCURSION

On Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> Of October, Kindergarten and Year 1 were visited by The Reptile Park, who brought with them a range of reptiles including turtles, snakes, lizards and even a baby crocodile!

Our brave students had the opportunity to learn about each reptile's habitat and other fun facts about them. Some students were brave enough to even hold them and enjoyed interacting with these beautiful creatures of Allah. Even the teachers joined in with Ms Orabi and Ms Dean conquering their fear of snakes! Well done to all the brave students.

Ms Sanjana, Year 1 Teacher



## TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, our Year 1 and Kindergarten classes had a fun local excursion to the park as part of the Teddy Bear Picnic. Students brought along their favourite stuffed toys for this adventure as they learnt about essential skills such as cleanliness, road safety, socialising and more. They also had the opportunity to make their own healthy snacks for the picnic.

Alhamdulillah, it was a great success and really helped the students get some much needed outdoor learning experiences despite the restrictions.



## IMPORTANT DATES

- Week 5: Wed 11 Nov— General Exams Start (K-9)
- Week 7: Mon 23 Nov— Kindy 2021 Orientation (9am-12pm)
- Week 7: Thu 26 Nov— Kindy 2021 Orientation (9am-12pm) + Parent Info Session (11am-12pm)
- Week 9: Wed 9 Dec— Yearly Report Cards handed out
- Week 9: Thu 10 Dec— Annual Awards Ceremony
- Week 9: Thu 10 Dec— Last day of school

## YEAR 12 GRADUATION

It was a bitter sweet day on Friday 25 September for our Year 12 students. We bid them farewell in a warm graduation ceremony with their parents and loved ones in the virtual audience. We pray that Allah (swt) guides our graduates and grants them success in their upcoming exams and in the greater test of life.

We ask Allah to accept the efforts of their families and teachers as a form of *sadaqah jariyah* (ongoing charity).

To all our current and former students, remember the advice of Sheikh Abdullah Hakeem: “Many people cannot read the Quran to learn about Islam but they can read you, so be the best example of a Muslim.”



## BOOK CHARACTER PARADE

On Thursday 22 October, primary students at Western Grammar School took part in the annual “Character Parade” in celebration of Book Week. This year a strong emphasis was placed on the creativity of the costume design through home-made and recycled materials.

Students began the morning by walking the red carpet class by class to showcase their costumes. Prizes were given out to students in each class for their outstanding efforts in costume design that were linked to characters from a wide variety of books.

WGS teachers also joined in the celebrations by dressing up as various book characters. Students were able to take pictures with friends and teachers with a photo booth set up to capture these memories. We thank all families for their support with the students in making this an enjoyable day for all.



## HADITH OF THE WEEK

